

**MINUTES
of the
KEENE CITY COUNCIL**

THURSDAY, JULY 6, 2023

PRESENT: Mayor Lisa Parrish, James Belz, Ray Johnson, Thomas Gutwa, Rob Foster, Owen Larson, and Gwen Beeson.

ABSENT: None.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m.

Invocation – Councilmember Gutwa.

Pledge of Allegiance & Pledge to the Texas Flag – Council and Public.

1. Mayor Comments:

- Mayor Parrish introduced City Manager Brent Batla.

2. Public Comments:

- Paul Gnadts spoke regarding the July 4th Parade.
- Paul Evans introduced himself as President of the Keene Police Association.

3. Consideration and approval of City Council Minutes dated June 15, 2023.

- Councilmember Foster made a motion to approve the City Council Minutes dated June 15, 2023.
- Councilmember Gutwa seconded the motion.
- Motion carried 5-0-1.
 - Councilmember Larson abstained

4. Discussion and take possible action adopting Resolution No. 2023-425 to add City Manager Brent Batla as an authorized signatory to all the City of Keene accounts at Pinnacle Bank.

- Councilmember Belz made a motion to approve adopting Resolution No. 2023-425 to add City Manager Brent Batla as an authorized signatory to all the City of Keene accounts at Pinnacle Bank.
- Councilmember Larson seconded the motion.
- Motion carried unanimously 6-0-0

5. Discussion and take possible action on appointing/reappointing five (5) places and one (1) alternate to the Board of Adjustment for a two-year term ending June 2025.

- Assistant City Manager Don Martin spoke on the topic.
- Councilmember Johnson spoke on the topic.
- Councilmember Gutwa spoke on the topic.
- Councilmember Foster spoke on the topic.

- Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve appointing Brad Hagelgantz, Carl Wright, Cody Thornton, and Tim Parrish to the Board of Adjustment for a two-year term ending June 2025.

- Councilmember Foster seconded the motion.

- **Motion carried 5-1-0**
 - **Councilmember Gutwa against the motion.**
 - **Councilmember Foster made a motion to approve appointing Eric Jahnke to the Board of Adjustment for a two-year term ending June 2025.**
 - **Councilmember Gutwa seconded the motion.**
 - **Motion carried 4-3-0**
 - **Councilmembers Belz, Johnson, Beeson against the motion.**
 - **Councilmembers Gutwa, Foster, Larson in favor of the motion.**
 - **Mayor Parrish broke the tie in favor of the motion.**
- 6. Consider and approve an Amendment to the City's Communications System Agreement with Johnson County.**
- **Police Chief James Kidd spoke on the topic.**
 - **Councilmember Gutwa made a motion to approve an Amendment to the City's Communications System Agreement with Johnson County.**
 - **Councilmember Larson seconded the motion.**
 - **Motion carried unanimously 6-0-0.**
- 7. Discussion regarding the rate increase with Republic Services.**
- **Assistant City Manager Don Martin spoke on the topic.**
 - **Mayor Parrish spoke on the topic.**
 - **Councilmember Beeson spoke on the topic.**
 - **Councilmember Larson spoke on the topic.**
- 8. Discussion and take possible action adopting an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Keene and Johnson County for road maintenance to CR 414.**
- **Assistant City Manager Don Martin spoke on the topic.**
 - **Councilmember Foster made a motion to approve adopting an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Keene and Johnson County for road maintenance to CR 414.**
 - **Councilmember Beeson seconded the motion.**
 - **Motion carried unanimously 6-0-0.**
- 9. City Manager Report.**
- **Brent Batla updated Council on the following:**
 - **The Canyons development, Well #7, sidewalks on Eastern St., ARPA fund critical infrastructure redundancy, starting one-on-one meetings with City Staff and Council, ONCOR attempting to increase rates, and the United Co-Op franchise agreement.**
 - **Assistant City Manager Don Martin updated the Council on the Sidewalk Project.**
 - **Councilmember Foster spoke on the topic.**
 - **Councilmember Larson spoke on the topic.**
 - **Councilmember Gutwa spoke on the topic.**

10. Executive Session: Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, the City Council may convene into a closed, Executive Session in accordance with the following authority:

551.071 (consultation with the attorney) 551.072 (real property) 551.073 (prospective gifts)
551.074 (personnel matters) 551.076 (security matters) 551.087 (economic development)

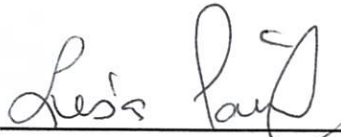
a) No executive session was held.

11. Reconvene into Open Session for possible action resulting from any item posted or discussed in Executive Session.

12. Requests for future agenda items.

- City Manager Brent Batla requested ARPA funds and update on the United Co-op franchise agreement.
- Councilmember Foster requested an update on the Sidewalk Project.
- Councilmember Belz requested an update on cameras and Live Streaming.
- Councilmember Beeson requested the following previously requested agenda items; Agenda Setting Policy, Short-term Rentals, and Impact Fees.

13. Meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

By: 

Lisa Parrish, Mayor

Attest: 

Tabatha Mansell, City Secretary